

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant responds hereto to the Official Action of May 1, 2007.

The Specification has been amended to include the requisite headings required by the Examiner. In addition, the language has been clarified (without inclusion of any new matter) with proper grammar and syntax.

Claims 1 to 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as failing to define the invention in the prescribed manner. Claims 1 to 10 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cadman (1,015,870) as well as by Bowers (3,808,906).

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 as original claims 1 to 10 have been replaced by new claims 11 to 21 which clearly define the invention in proper form according to United States practice.

Specifically, new claim 11 is directed to a wheel including a hub, a peripheral transmission part and an elastic part arranged to mechanically link the hub to the transmission part. These features may be found, for instance, in paragraphs 0003 and 0004 of the published application (US2004-0237688-A1) as well as in the drawings. Claim 11 further specifies that the elastic part mechanically links the hub to the transmission part in such a way that, in a first state of the elastic part, the hub and the transmission part may rotate about a same rotation axis (FIGS. 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8) while the elastic part may be deformed to turn from its first state to a second state in which the rotation axis of the transmission part is shifted with respect to that of the hub (FIGS. 3, 5, 7 and 9). These features are disclosed in essence in paragraphs 0006 or 0034 as published.

New claim 12 corresponds to original claim 2 in which the wording has been amended to more clearly define the corresponding objects for which protection is sought.

New claim 13 corresponds to original claim 4.

New claim 14 corresponds to the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 6 and 7.

New claim 15 corresponds to original claim 9.

New claim 16 corresponds to original claim 3.

New claim 17 corresponds to original claim 8.

New claim 18 is a new independent claim corresponding to original claim 5, the wording of which has been adapted to the new wording of claim 11.

New claim 19 corresponds to original claim 6.

New claim 20 is a new independent claim corresponding to original claim 7, the wording of which has been adapted to the new wording of claim 11.

New claim 21 corresponds to the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 6 and 7.

Consequently, no new matter is added by virtue of these amendments carried out in the set of claims, as is evident from what precedes. The Examiner is accordingly requested to review and withdraw the rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) for the following reasons.

The invention as claimed embodies an elastic part which links a hub of a wheel to a transmission part whereby the rotation axis for both the transmission part and the hub is able to be shifted from coincident to separated. The hub is the central part of the wheel and the transmission part comprises external drive teeth and the like. Neither Cadman which shows deformable gear teeth nor Bowers which discloses an elastomeric between the gear teeth discloses, teaches or even remotely suggests an elastic part between a wheel hub and drive teeth to permit rotation axis displacement. The Examiner is accordingly requested to review and withdraw the rejections based on the cited prior art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all the claims as now presented are allowable under 35 U.S.C., Sections 102, 103 and 112. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance of these claims are respectfully requested.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS
BEING SUBMITTED
ELECTRONICALLY
THROUGH THE PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS
FILING SYSTEM ON October 1,
2007

RCF:IN/cli/ns

{00869162.1}

Respectfully submitted,


Robert C. Faber
Registration No.: 24,322
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-8403
Telephone: (212) 382-0700